

To the FCC re Docket 04-233:

I am writing in opposition to the renewal of the broadcast license of Sinclair Broadcasting for the WLOS television station in Asheville, North Carolina.

I was born in Asheville and grew up twenty miles away in Hendersonville, NC. I left the area to work in television news on the local, national and international levels for more than thirty years. I've returned home, and WLOS is the only local station for me and for thousands of western North Carolinians.

I receive WLOS through Mediacom cable. It is the ONE North Carolina channel we are provided. While I would prefer to receive broadcasts from Charlotte, NC, we are forced to get network coverage from Spartanburg and Greenville, SC because we are closer to them.

The South Carolina stations barely cover North Carolina and seem to do so grudgingly. We are lucky if we learn from those stations what the weather will be in the North Carolina mountains. It is a huge problem that should be addressed by the FCC. Towns bordering states should have access to channels in their own state, but that's another letter.

I believe that Sinclair does not provide enough resources to WLOS. The station tries, but it is evident to anyone who has been in the business that they do not have the money or people to serve our area.

In this 21st century, we citizens have the right and the need to be better informed. Many people here cannot afford cable and receive only WLOS as their sole source of news and information. Sinclair should willingly put money into this news organization. I'm forced to believe they do not feel an obligation to the area except to their own monetary gain. This station should be owned by people who care about this area and care about those who live here. This station must provide thorough and competent news and information coverage, because it's the only source of local and state television news most of us have.

I noticed today that Sinclair is broadcasting some sort of "thank you" to the people who support them and the First Amendment. I didn't catch the whole promo, but I have to assume it's related to the running of the Kerry documentary or parts thereof.

I don't believe the First Amendment is the issue. I believe that people who own broadcast licenses have obligations to the public. When I worked in local tv news, we went through extensive procedures to interview vast segments of our viewing audience to find out what they thought of us and whether we were fulfilling our obligations to them.

The FCC felt we owed the community, and so did we.

Should a broadcast license allow a company to use the airwaves to further a political agenda? If so, what if that company is operating the only channel in an area? Shouldn't a license be more than a vehicle by which one person or group spreads its beliefs, no matter how disguised? Would you grant a license to the Ku Klux Klan? Does the content of the programs broadcast or the intent of the owners factor into the licensing decision?

Again, this is the only television source of local and state news and information programming I have. (PBS does not provide local news.)

I am not being served. Please help.

Sincerely,

Kathy Moore